



PROCEDURES MANUAL

YORK COUNTY PRISON

POLICY SUBJECT:

Religious Activities

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Sobolator

Policy Statement: The religious practices policy of the York County Prison is designed to meet the needs of the inmates. Inmates of different religious beliefs will be provided reasonable and equitable opportunities to participate in the practices of their respective faiths. These opportunities will exist for all equally, regardless of the number of practitioners of a given religion, whether the religion is "mainstream"; whether the religion is "Western" or "Eastern", or other such factors. Opportunities will be constrained only by concerns about safety, security, the orderly operation of the Prison, or extraordinary costs associated with a specific practice.

I. Definitions

a. Facility Chaplain

A volunteer, contracted or county employed clergyperson assigned to the prison who provides services, activities and/or individual/group counseling of spiritual nature for the inmate population and who falls under the supervision of the Deputy Warden for Treatment.

b. Interfaith

That which involves persons, services, or programs of different religious faiths.

c. Religious Accommodation Review Committee (RARC)

A committee comprised of the Facility Chaplain and prison staff (Administration, Security, Medical, Food Services, etc.) that reviews inmate requests for religious accommodations and religious. The committee requires at minimum a Facility Chaplain and Prison Administrator to determine a religious accommodation. The Committee shall make formal recommendations and requests for religious policy and procedure changes to the Warden and Prison Board.

d. Religious Accommodations

Religious accommodations include religious articles, accoutrements, diets, changes in religion and accommodations fundamental to the tenants of the religion and the sincerely held belief.

e. Religious Volunteer

An individual from the outside community who has received endorsement from a faith who is authorized to enter the prison to provide religious services to inmates and detainees.

f. Pastor or Religious Leader

An individual who is ordained or recognized by their respective faith to provide spiritual guidance and direction.

II. Facility Chaplain Job Description:

- a. The Facility Chaplain shall have appropriate clinical pastoral education, or equivalent specialized training, and be recognized by a religious certifying body.
- b. The Prison shall have at least one (1) full-time Facility Chaplain, with Assistant Facility Chaplains appointed as required.

- c. The Facility Chaplain is responsible for planning, coordinating, directing, supervising, and managing religious activities in the Prison, in cooperation with the Prison Warden or designee.
- d. The Facility Chaplain is available to provide pastoral care and counseling to inmates who request it, both through group programs and individual services.
- e. The Facility Chaplain is responsible for assisting an inmate who belongs to a religious faith different from the Facility Chaplain or Assistant Facility Chaplains to contact a community representative of faith groups for pastoral care and counseling.
- f. The Facility Chaplain is responsible for maintaining close relationships with all community religious resources in order to insure community involvement, including the participation of volunteers.
- g. The Facility Chaplain will endeavor to provide opportunities for religious practice in major languages spoken by residents.
- h. In coordination with the Prison Warden or designee, the Facility Chaplain is responsible for timely reviewing of religious material received at the Prison, including religious material donated for general use in Prison libraries and religious activities, and religious material to be given to inmates.
- i. The Facility Chaplain shall act as the coordinator and facilitator for all inmate religious requests sent to the RARC. The Facility Chaplain shall also maintain all religious activity sheets, sign-in forms and other documentation pertaining to religious activity in the prison for 4 years. After 4 years records should be destroyed.
- j. The Facility Chaplain or designee shall assist in providing crisis services and death notifications to inmates. The Facility Chaplain shall ensure appropriate referrals to mental health and medical departments as needed.
- k. The Facility Chaplain and Assistant Facility Chaplains shall make regular rounds to all segregated housing units to provide pastoral care to inmates housed in those areas.

III. General Procedure:

a. General

- i. Inmates shall have the opportunity to participate in practices of their religious faith that are deemed essential by that faith, limited only by a documented showing of threat to the safety of persons involved in such activity itself, or disruption of order in the facility.

- ii. All recognized religions represented in the inmate population will have equal status without discrimination based on any inmate's race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation or disability.

b. Inmate Participation

- i. Religious services and programs shall be offered in various conference rooms throughout the prison to ensure inmates have the opportunity for services in group settings consistent with the need for security, inmate separation needs and good order of the prison.
- ii. Participation or non-participation in religious programs is voluntary on the part of each inmate.
- iii. Inmates shall have the opportunity to engage in practices of their religious faith that are deemed essential by the faith's judicatory, consistent with the safety, security, and the orderly operation of the facility.
- iv. Opportunities for religious activities are open with no regard to race, color, nationality, or creed.

c. Inmates in Special Housing

- i. Inmates of any faith tradition will ordinarily have access to recognized representatives of their faith group while housed in special housing or hospital units.
- ii. Inmates in special housing shall make a request for a visit with their faith representative through the Facility Chaplain, and requests shall be accommodated consistent with the security and good order of the Prison.

d. Inmate Attendance

- i. The Prison reserves the right to limit the number of inmates attending religious group meetings, consistent with safe, secure and orderly operation of the Prison. Limitations may also be based on the religion the inmate registered during the admissions process. Number attendees must also be in accordance with Life Safety Codes.
- ii. The Prison also reserves the right to cancel group religious services if participation declines, a need for the use of the space arises, or issues arise concerning the safe, secure, and orderly operation of the Prison. In those cases, the Facility Chaplain will work with the affected faith group to provide alternative religious services to inmates.

- iii. Inmates may normally attend religious services for any faith; however, services may be restricted by the Warden or designee, Facility Chaplain and/or at the request of the facilitating volunteer to inmates registered to that particular faith so they have the opportunity to attend the service or function.
- iv. When necessary, for the security or good order of the Prison, attendance at a religious activity may be limited or discontinued.
- v. Anytime a religious services are temporarily restricted, cancelled or discontinued staff shall submit a report explaining why. A supervisor must approve the restriction, cancellation and/or discontinue religious activity and forward the report to the Warden for review.

e. Special Services and Feasts

- i. In order for an inmate to participate in a special feast or service such as Ramadan, Eid, Passover, etc. he/she must be registered as participating in that particular faith and be approved by the Facility Chaplain.
- ii. The kitchen shall accommodate special meals at odd hours when the religious feast or service requires it.
- iii. The Warden or designee may authorize food specific to the religious feast or festival.

f. Services and Study Groups

i. Services

- 1. All religious services and activities shall be scheduled through the Facility Chaplain, coordinated with the Treatment and Reentry Supervisor and approved by the Deputy Warden-Treatment.
- 2. Separate group religious services shall be provided for the major faith groups in the Male Section, Female Section, Minimum Security Section, ICE Non-Criminal Section, General Population Section, North Section and South Section. Major faith groups are defined as Jewish, Buddhist, Muslim, Hindu, or Christian.
- 3. Group religious services by the major faith groups shall be non-denominational. This means that the service will not promote the teachings or doctrines of one sect or denomination, but be general in nature involving doctrines and beliefs that are common to the major faith group.

4. All religious activities shall be under the supervision of the Facility Chaplain. Religious volunteers or Security Personnel may be present as determined by the Warden or designee.
5. Community participation in special religious activities/services may be permitted with the input from the Facility Chaplain and approval of the Deputy Warden - Treatment.
6. The Facility Chaplain shall contact representatives of faith groups in the community to provide specific religious services that he or she cannot personally deliver.
7. Additional major faith group religious services may be provided if requested by at least 25 inmates who have designated the faith, subject to the Prison's security classifications and operation. This means at least 25 inmates in a respective Prison section shall have designated the religion or faith as their preference and requested group religious services. Number attendees must also be in accordance with Life Safety Codes.
8. Inmates may request the introduction of new or unfamiliar religious components to the religious services program, consistent with his or her religious designation in accordance with Section VI. of this policy and procedure.

ii. Study Groups

1. Based upon the availability of Prison meeting rooms and security considerations, study groups can be scheduled. A request for a study group meeting shall be submitted and reviewed by the Facility Chaplain, who shall provide a recommendation to the Prison Warden or designee. The Facility Chaplain shall communicate the final decision to the inmate making the request.
2. Study groups are to be non-denominational in doctrine, as in the group religious services. Study groups are informal, with interaction between the representatives of the faith groups and inmates.
3. Participation in study groups may be limited based upon the size of the meeting room and considerations related to Prison security and orderly operations. Number attendees must also be in accordance with Life Safety Codes.

g. Scheduling

- i. Services and meetings must be scheduled/occur between the hours of 8:45am to 11:45am, 1:00pm to 4:30pm and 6:30pm to 10:00pm including weekends and holidays.

- ii. Service schedules and meeting times are subject to change based on institutional needs and security concerns.

- h. Religious Volunteers and Leaders

- i. Security Clearance

- 1. A Religious Volunteer wishing to provide religious services or activities on a regular basis shall submit an application and authorization for a criminal background check to the Facility Chaplain. They must also be able to provide verification of their religious affiliation and/or who has received endorsement from his/her faith.
 - 2. All background checks shall be forwarded to the designated Treatment Supervisor for placement on the approved volunteer list. Volunteers must receive updated background clearances at least every two (2) years in order to maintain their security clearance.
 - 3. Criteria for eligibility and security clearance shall be in accordance with the York County Prison Volunteer Policy and Procedure. All volunteers must receive training in the prison Sexual Abuse and Assault Prevention Policy, in addition to appropriate inmate interactions and basic prison operations regarding volunteers.
 - 4. Approved representatives providing regular religious services or activities shall be placed on the approved volunteer list to enter the prison.
 - 5. Religious volunteer requesting to provide a one time or limited number of services or counseling sessions shall provide verification of their religious affiliation and/or documentation of their endorsement from his/her faith. Approval shall be documented on a Sally port Clearance.
 - 6. Representatives of faith groups shall be afforded equal status and treatment to assist inmates in observing their religious beliefs, unless security and good order of the facility warrants otherwise.
 - 7. Staff, relatives and family members of an inmate shall not be approved to enter the prison as Religious Volunteer, Religious Volunteer or faith group leader.
 - 8. Visits by Religious Volunteer, Religious Volunteer or faith group leader shall not be counted as regular visits.
 - 9. The visiting privileges of an approved representative of a major faith may be suspended or revoked if their actions or lack of actions violate the "Procedures for Religious Visitation" or are inconsistent with the security and good order of the Prison. The Facility Chaplain shall investigate complaints and make a recommendation to the Prison Warden or

designee, and shall communicate the decision to the individual and the faith group. The decision may be appealed to the Prison Board.

- ii. Community religious organizations may be limited to a total of three (3) volunteers at any one time.

- iii. Pastoral (Religious Leader) Visits

- 1. Pastoral visits are available to provide for inmate group religious doctoral counseling. If requested by an inmate, the Facility Chaplain or designee shall facilitate arrangements for pastoral visits. Pastoral visits are inmate driven and require the inmate's written approval to occur.
- 2. The pastor shall be listed on the inmate's visiting list and identified as a religious leader. Visits with a religious leader will not count against the inmate's regular weekly visits.
- 3. Pastoral visits are limited to pre-registered active clergy or equivalent of faith groups. Retired, inactive clergy or equivalent, or other members authorized by the faith group may be approved for pastoral visits upon approval of the Prison Warden or designee.
- 4. Generally, a maximum of three (3) representatives from each church, congregation, synagogue, or similar religious group will be permitted to conduct pastoral visits. A request for additional representatives may be submitted to the Facility Chaplain, who shall review the request and make a recommendation to the Prison Warden or designee. The Facility Chaplain shall communicate the final decision on the request to the religious group.
- 5. Pastoral visits shall conform to the Prison security rules and the Official Visitor Policy and Procedure.
- 6. Pastors or religious leaders shall not give anything to an inmate without the Facility Chaplain's approval. All religious materials for an inmate shall be given to the Facility Chaplain for review.
- 7. Pastors shall not accept anything from the inmate. Materials to be given to a representative of a faith group during a pastoral visit by an inmate shall be approved by the Prison Captain.
- 8. One (1) pastoral visit per week, Sunday through Saturday is permitted. The Administration or Facility Chaplain may approve additional visits.
- 9. All pastoral visits shall be limited to the pastoral role. Friendship visits are permitted during the normal non-contact visitation process.

10. An inmate desiring a pastoral visit shall file a written request with or make a verbal request to the Facility Chaplain.
11. A representative of a faith group may initiate a pastoral visit only if the inmate is a parishioner or the inmate has requested the visit. In the event a pastor requests to meet with the inmate and a request has not been received from the inmate to visit, the Facility Chaplain or designee will contact the inmate and request in writing if the inmate wishes to allow the visit.
12. Fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles or the legal equivalent may not meet with an inmate for a pastoral visit. Such visits are considered to be personal and shall follow normal visitation procedures.
13. Inmates with capital or similar charges are restricted to pastoral visits with clergy of his or her choice. Other spiritual advisors may visit with the inmate's consent a maximum of three (3) times per week, provided that the advisor is placed on the inmate's visiting list. These visits will not be counted as outer visits; and a spiritual advisor may be granted additional visits during regular visiting hours if possible.
14. Attorneys have a priority for the use of the attorney/client rooms and a pastoral visit may be relocated or terminated if necessary.
15. Pastoral visits are limited to no more than one (1) hour, without approval from the Facility Chaplain.
16. Pastoral visiting hours are from 8:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and 6:30 to 10:00 p.m., seven (7) days a week in the Prison and ICE section.
17. The proper dress preferred for a pastoral visit is a collared shirt or blouse with trousers, pants or a skirt, or dresses. T-shirts, blue jeans, and ties are discouraged. Shorts are not permitted in pastoral visits.
18. Pastoral visits of Immigration Customs Enforcement (ICE) inmates require prior approval from the ICE. The ICE will notify the Facility Chaplain, who will schedule the visit upon the approval of the ICE.
19. If an inmate belongs to a faith, which is not represented by either the Facility Chaplain or his staff or any religious volunteer, the Facility Chaplain is responsible for assisting the inmate in contacting such a person. An "unknown" clergyman (not listed by the York County Council of Churches), may be included on an inmate's visitor's list and may visit with that person during normal visiting hours.

20. The Facility Chaplain can also make special arrangements to have a recognized clergyman visit with an inmate, without that person being listed or counted as a 'visitor'.

i. Identification of Religious Affiliation

- i. Inmates shall be asked their religious affiliation during the admission's process. Changes to religious affiliation shall be done in accordance with Section V, a of this procedure.
- ii. If upon review, the inmate's religious affiliation is blank, the assigned counselor/Facility Chaplain/staff member shall ask the inmate his/her religious affiliation and mark the response accordingly.
- iii. Identification of faith does not automatically allow an inmate for religious accommodations for that religion. Inmates must request a religious accommodation in accordance with Section V, of this procedure. Inmates must request a religious accommodation in accordance with the procedure. Inmates may change their affiliation and explore other religions.
- iv. If the inmate has exhausted the means in Section V of this procedure for changing his/her religious affiliation he/she may submit a grievance through the Inmate Complaint Review System.

IV. Religious Literature

- a. An inmate who wishes to obtain religious books, magazines, or periodicals must comply with the Prison's general rules for ordering, purchasing, retaining, and accumulating personal property.
- b. Religious literature is permitted in accordance with procedures governing incoming publications.
- c. Religious literature that advocates violence or racial hatred in the name of religion, that seeks to denigrate other religions, or that encourages illegal activity shall not be accepted and shall be returned.

V. Religious Accommodations

- a. The Religious Accommodation Review Committee (RARC) must approve all religious accommodations, which include religious articles, accoutrements, changes in religion and accommodations fundamental to the tenants of the religion. RARC shall use one or all of the following criteria to guide it's decisions regarding religious accommodations:

- i. Sincerity of the inmate's religious belief (primary measure for accommodation);
 - ii. Impact of granting the request on other inmates;
 - iii. Presence of a valid rational connection between the prison regulation and the compelling governmental interest to justify it;
 - iv. Public policy; and
 - v. Recognition of the religion outside the prison walls.
 - b. Inmates must submit a request slip identifying the accommodation requested and how it relates to their faith. The inmate must also explain in the request slip and, in many cases, demonstrate to the RARC their sincerely held belief consistent with the religion identified. In cases where the inmate is unable to adequately justify and/or demonstrate a sincerely held belief, the inmate can:
 - i. Have their religious leader verify that he/she is a practicing member of the faith in question; and/or
 - ii. Show documentation to support their religious affiliation.
- The RARC will review the request and any supporting documentation to make their decision. The RARC may interview the inmate, family members, religious leaders, etc. to assist in making it's decision. Inmates will typically receive a decision regarding their request within ten (10) business days of submitting their request.
- c. Inmate religious accommodations may be reviewed by the RARC at anytime during the incarceration to determine if the approval is still warranted.
 - d. Inmates who require accommodations due to a disability shall file a grievance in accordance with the Inmate Complaint Review System.
 - e. Expansion of religious services requires the inmate to obtain written information from his/her outside faith group, including any publications that describe the goals, beliefs, and practices of the group and supply the information to the Facility Chaplain for review. The RARC may ask the inmate to provide additional data in order to determine to include or exclude the practices from the religious services program.
 - f. If the request is outside the current policy, the RARC shall review each inmate's request within thirty (30) business days of receipt. Once a determination is made, the Facility Chaplain will notify the inmate of the decision. If approved, the Facility Chaplain will coordinate with security to ensure the accommodation is provided.
 - g. Decisions regarding the expansion of the Religious Services Policy are subject to the Prison's guidelines for maintaining a safe and secure facility and the availability of space and staff for supervision.

h. Inmates who are not approved religious accommodations may challenge the decision utilizing the Inmate Complaint Review System.

i. The following are religious articles, accoutrements and accommodations:

i. Religious Medallions

1. Religious medallions pertaining to an inmate's faith may be permitted in the facility and may be worn about the neck on a jewelry type chain.
2. Medallions that are designed with a pin to be worn on clothing are not permitted.
3. Medallions may be made of metal, wood or plastic and may be round in shape or in the shape of the appropriate religious symbol such as a cross, star or crescent. They are no larger in size than a fifty (50) cent piece. Crosses may be no longer than 1 ½" in length.
4. Each inmate will be permitted only one religious medallion in accordance with the above criteria.
5. Security and the Chaplain shall review all medallions. The Chaplain must approve medallions with no security concerns. Medallions are limited to the inmate's designated faith.

ii. Religious Articles

1. All ritual supplies and accoutrements must be maintained and secured by the Facility Chaplain. Practicing members of each faith group are permitted to possess the following items that are relevant to their faith. These include:
2. Medicine Bag (not to exceed two inches by two inches in size);
 - a. Inmates of a Native American Faith Group may wear the medicine bag throughout the facility, except while working in food service or other areas where food is processed;
 - b. The medicine bag shall be purchased from an approved vendor or provided by an approved Religious Volunteer.
 - c. The medicine bag shall be opened by the Native American to be searched. A non-Native American shall not touch the contents of

the medicine bag. If an inmate refuses to allow the bag to be searched, the inmate will be issued a disciplinary report for refusing an Order and the medicine bag will be confiscated. The Shift Captain shall search the bag and all contents shall be forwarded to the Deputy Warden for Treatment for review.

d. A medicine bag, with the approval by the Religious Accommodation Committee may contain:

- i. A small piece of pipestone;
- ii. Sage;
- iii. Sweet grass;
- iv. A kernel of corn or grain;
- v. Other such items sacred to the wearer, subject to security concerns.
- vi. Tobacco is contraband will not be approved.

e. If the contents are to be searched, the contents shall be placed on a piece of paper and visually searched. If a particular item is called into question, it shall be removed from the medicine bag and a disciplinary and/or an officers daily report shall be completed documenting why the item was confiscated.

f. The RARC shall review the item in question to determine if it is approved. The Religious Volunteer can also be asked to review the item in question.

g. An inmate on disciplinary segregation may not maintain a medicine bag.

3. Sacred Prayer Feather

a. A sacred prayer feather may be used during Native American services.

b. All other times the sacred prayer feather is to be kept in the cell for private worship.

4. Prayer Rugs

- a. Inmates of faiths permitted to use prayer rugs may use them during group services.
- b. Prayer rugs may be maintained in a cell.

5. Religious Headgear

- a. Inmates are permitted to wear religious headgear in all areas of the prison unless there is a security concern. Religious headgear can be worn while traveling in the hallways (except for Turbans), at the door when receiving medication or meals, and during recreation. The religious headgear can be removed and searched at any time for security reasons.
- b. The following applies to religious headgear:
 - i. Religious headwear for men and women, including Kuffies, Yarmulkes, Turbans, Prayer Shawls and Crowns, may be brought into the prison if approved by the RARC.
 - ii. Each inmate will be permitted to maintain no more than (2) religious headgear items at one time. The religious headgear may be made of leather, cloth or beads. Religious headgear must be solid in color (black, white, brown and gray) as other colors may have gang representation. It shall fit flush to the head and must be no more than two-ply thick.
 - iii. The Turban wrapping material can be no longer than (6) feet.
 - iv. The women's Prayer Shawls can be no longer than (1) towel size (23" x 40"), or triangular coverings (49" x 49" x 62"), and the material is to be (1) ply sheer.
 - v. Inmates will not be permitted to cover their face and Turbans cannot be worn in the hallways. Any item that does not fit this description cannot be worn while traveling in the hallway, at the door when receiving medication or meals or during recreation.

6. Wedding Bands

- a. Inmates register their marital status during the admissions process. Any wedding bands or rings, which contain stones, are not permitted.
- b. An inmate who is not registered during the admissions process for as married, must provide verification (marriage certificate) to the Facility Chaplain that he or she is married in order to receive a wedding band.

7. Incense and Oils

- a. Incense and Oils are not permitted within the facility due to security concerns.

8. Religious Beads

- a. Beads are limited to ¼" in diameter and must be uniform in color. An inmate may possess one set of prayer beads and must be approved by a RARC.
- b. Beads must be made of plastic, wood or a light weight material. Beads that prove to be exceptionally heavy may be restricted due to security concerns.

9. Religious Material

- a. Religious material is permitted in the facility consistent with the Prison Mail and Incoming Publications Policy.
- b. Material that is inflammatory to other religions, races, creeds, colors or ethnicity may be restricted due to security concerns.

10. Diets

- a. Meal plan accommodations shall be based on established religious dietary guidelines for sincere practicing members of a particular faith as verified through the RARC, accepted practices and religious faith leaders that do not pose a security risk or undue burden.

- b. Limited use of pork and pork products objectionable to certain religions shall be made in the Prison menu and menus will clearly indicate which foods contain any pork or pork products or were prepared with pork products. The prison's regular menu shall meet this standard.
- c. Inmates shall also register their special religious dietary needs with the Facility Chaplain in advance. The Facility Chaplain will review their request; including verification with recognized representatives of the faith and that the inmate has designated the religion as well as a religious preference. The Facility Chaplain in conjunction with the Religious Accommodation Review Committee shall approve or deny the diet based on the evidence of religious affiliation and sincerity of the belief displayed by the inmate.
- d. Inmates who have medical restrictions that preclude foods contained in the religious diet may not receive the items. The Religious Accommodation Review Committee and the Kitchen Supervisor shall determine if reasonable adjustments can be made to the religious diet in order to meet the medical requirements for the inmate.
- e. The Food Service Department has procedures for accommodating, within reason, inmates' religious dietary requirements. When an inmate's religion requires special food services, either daily or during certain holydays or periods that involve fasting, restricted diets, etc., staff will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate them. The need for menu variations shall be verified through the Facility Chaplain with approval from prison administration. This will require, among other things, modifying menus to exclude certain foods or food combinations, providing meals at unusual hours, etc.
- f. The special food service MAY be terminated after a hearing before the Deputy Warden of Treatment/RARC. Unless the inmate demonstrates a valid reason consistent with his religious belief for failing to adhere to his special diet the Deputy Warden of Treatment/RARC may return him to the regular prison diet. If the inmate requires a medical diet he/she must submit a sick call slip to meet with medical staff. The inmate shall have the right of an 806 appeal of the Deputy Warden of Treatment/RARC's decision.

g. The following are the meal plans offered:

i. Kosher

1. Kosher meals are pre-packaged meals prepared in accordance with the Jewish faith and that meet the dietary guidelines of kosher.

ii. Common Fare

1. The common fare is a vegetarian dish and should fall within the dietary restrictions of many religions.

iii. Regular Meal

1. The regular meal plan does not contain pork or pork by-products; it meets the basic dietary restrictions of many religions.
2. If a regular meal contains pork or pork by product the kitchen shall note it.
3. The regular meal is automatically assigned at intake unless medical assigns another medically necessary diet.

iv. Medical Diet

1. A diet determined by the medical department to ensure compliance with an inmate's medical needs.
2. Conflicts between an inmate's need for a medical and request for a diet consistent with the inmate's religion will be reviewed with RARC and the medical authority.
3. Ultimately the requirements of law, the prison's penological needs and concerns, the cost, the inmate's demands and the inmate's health and well-being will be determining factors in the assigned meal plan.

11. Religious Accommodation Revocation

- a. A religious accommodation (diet, beads, coverings, etc.) may be revoked when the accommodation is being abused, used in a manner not intended or approved and/or if altered from its original state making it contraband.
- b. Inmates who violate meal accommodations by consuming meals other than for medical reasons, not in accordance with their dietary requirements, may be placed on a regular diet or, if necessary, a medically appropriate diet as determined by the Medical Department. The removal is not punishment, but is to ensure the security and integrity of the prison system. Inmates who violate prison rules and programs inherently undermine the good order and security of the institution.
- c. The religious accommodation MAY be terminated after a hearing before the Deputy Warden of Treatment. Unless the inmate demonstrates a valid reason consistent with his sincerely held religious belief for failing to adhere to his special diet or use of the religious accommodation, the Deputy Warden of Treatment/RARC may return the inmate to the normal prison diet or revoke the religious accommodation.
- d. The inmate shall have the right of an 806 appeal of the Deputy Warden of Treatment's/RARC's decision.
- e. Inmates may submit, in writing, a request slip to the Facility Chaplain asking to be removed from the religious meal plan or give up a religious accommodation. Once formally removed, the inmate may not receive the meal plan or accommodation during that incarceration.

VI. Right of Appeal

- a. Any inmate who feels that Prison religious practices policy or a decision made by a Prison employee does not allow the inmate a reasonable and equitable opportunity to participate in the practice of their respective faith may file an "801 Complaint", as detailed in the Inmate Handbook and in accordance with the Inmate Complaint Review System.
- b. Inmates who feel religious accommodation was denied inappropriately may file an "801 Complaint", as detailed in the Inmate Handbook and in accordance with the Inmate Complaint Review System. Inmates who have had a religious accommodation revoked

by the Deputy Warden of Treatment/RARC may file an 806 directly to the Solicitor for the Prison Board.

VII. Religious Facilities and Equipment

- a. While space is at a premium at York County Prison, there is room set-aside to be used for religious services (the main multi-purpose room). The Facility Chaplain/Assistant Chaplain(s) is provided his/her own office and religious volunteers are afforded the attorney/client rooms for individual counseling and multipurpose rooms for gatherings with multiple inmates.
- b. Space for inmate worship shall be in accordance with Life Safety Codes and ensure proper security.
- c. The Facility Chaplain in cooperation with the Warden and the Deputy Warden-Treatment coordinate the acceptance of donated materials to be used by the Facility Chaplain's Department.
- d. Certain supplies that directly benefit the inmate may be purchased through the monies contained in the Inmate General Welfare Fund.